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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

PM82/1214

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
POST OFFICE BOX 10395
CHICAGO IL 60610

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/061,084	04/15/98	023	NOVOSAD, C	3671 12/14/99
First Named Applicant	CROFT, 35 USC 154(b) term ext. = 0 Days.			

TITLE OF INVENTION SEED PLANTER APPARATUS AND METHOD

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 9237/75	111-185.000	F57	UTILITY	NO	\$1210.00	03/14/00

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/061,084 04/15/98 CROFT

R	9237/75
EXAMINER	

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PM82/1214

ART. UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 1

12/14/99

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

- ☒ This communication is responsive to THE EXAMINATION FILED OCTOBER 21, 1999
- ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 11, 12, 16-22 AND 40-46
- ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.
- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- ☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.
- ☒ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS
- ☒ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.
- ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. _____
- ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on _____, which has been approved by the examiner.
- ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftperson.

- ☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4
- ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Melvin F. Jager, Attorney for Applicants, on December 8, 1999.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 8-10, 13-15 and 23-39 to species non-elected without traverse in an Election dated October 21, 1999 (Paper No. 8). Accordingly, ~~claims~~ 8-10, 13-15 and 23-39 have been cancelled.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification:

In page 1, line 10, --now U.S. Patent No. 5,765,720;-- has been inserted after

a₁
"08/702,294".

In page 1, line 10, --now U.S. Patent No. 5,740,747;-- has been inserted after

a₂
"08/700,214".

In page 1, line 10, --now U.S. Patent No. 5,848,571;-- has been inserted after

a₃
"08/700,225".

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a4
In page 1, line 10, --now U.S. Patent No. 5,839,378;-- has been inserted after
"08/700,217".

a5
In page 1, line 10, --now U.S. Patent No. 5,799,598;-- has been inserted after
"08/700,222".

In the claims:

In claim ~~3~~, line 1, the recitation "openings" has been corrected to --at least one opening--.

In claim ~~4~~, line 1; claim ~~20~~, line 13; and in claim ~~21~~, line 1, --at least one-- has been
inserted before "opening".

In claim ~~4~~, line 2, the recitation "court." has been corrected to --cover--.

In claim ~~18~~, line 2; and in claim ~~45~~, line 2, the recitation "Carilon." has been corrected to -
-an aliphatic polyketone--.

In claim ~~19~~, line 2, the recitation "Estaloc." has been corrected to --plastic--.

In claim ~~22~~, line 1, the recitation "Carilon" has been corrected to --an aliphatic
polyketone--.

In claim ~~22~~, line 2, the recitation "Estaloc." has been corrected to --plastic--.

In claim ~~40~~, line 3, the recitation "lease" has been corrected to --least--.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chris Novosad whose telephone number is (703) 308-2246.



Christopher J. Novosad

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3671

December 13, 1999

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